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55. An optical cable according to Claim 40, wherein said optical fibre has an external diameter of less than 400 μm .

56. An optical cable according to Claim 40 wherein said optical fibre has an external diameter of less than 270 μm .

57. An optical cable according to Claim 40, wherein said polymer material has a bending modulus of between 20 Mpa and 70 Mpa, a Shore D hardness factor of between 15 and 70 and a Melt Flow Index of between 5 and 15.

58. An optical cable according to Claim 40, comprising a sheath arranged around said layer of polymer material, said sheath being made of a material selected from polyalkylene terephthalates, polyolefins and polyamides.

REMARKS

In this Preliminary Amendment, the claims have been amended to conform them to customary U.S. practice.

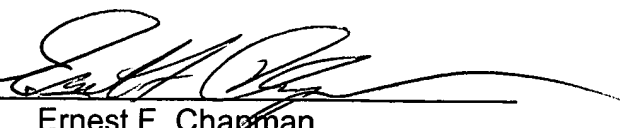
Claims 30-58 are pending in this application. No new matter has been added.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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